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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Air Defense Measures in the Karlovy
Vary Area

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1. The following measures were decided on at a meeting of the secret Planning Commission of the National District Board. Beranek, chief of the Political Section, and Czech commissioner Kopazek were co-chairmen. The meeting was held in Karlovy Vary (N 51/P 69) during the first half [REDACTED]

a. Construction of water reservoirs for fire fighting purposes in the event of an air raid against Karlovy Vary. Two stationary and two mobile water reservoirs of reinforced concrete were scheduled to be built in the Tepla River, at a cost of about 7,000,000 Czech crowns, during the first half of 1950.

b. Construction of two air raid shelters to be built into the rocks, with a capacity of 200 persons each, at a cost of about 6,500,000 Czech crowns (for employees of the District Administration).

2. Of negotiations held in the "Stavoproject" bureau of the National District Board in Karlovy Vary the following became known: A DOZ staff captain declared that 150 to 200 candidates were to take secret six-month training courses in fire fighting duties. The students were to be selected from the factory police units and had to be reliable Communists. The school was to be opened in a building on the road to Varianske Lazne (N 50/P 56) in Karlovy Vary on 1 January 1950. Fifty candidates were to be quartered in the school building. A 20-meter training tower was to be erected behind the school in a woods. The cost of this project was estimated at 70 million Czech crowns and was to be paid from the District Administration budget for 1949.

3. The following was learned from a confidential circular issued by the State Planning Board in Prague and the Directorate of the "Stavoproject" in October 1949:

a. Air raid shelters must be constructed at an accelerated pace and with the greatest secrecy in all schools and kindergartens. No combustible materials are to be used for these

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shelters, which must have special ante-rooms.

b. Each dwelling house with at least four flats must be provided with a standard air raid shelter. Adjoining houses should be interconnected by steel doors.

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